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FEATURING: THE FANTASTIC FOUR AND NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.!

IN FULL COLOUR!

THE NEWEST-AND GREATEST-SUPERHERO OF ALL!

CAPTAIN BRITAIN

10P

FOOL! NOTHING
CAN HARM
DR. SYNNE!

HE'S
RIGHT! I
CAN'T PIERCE
HIS FORCE
FIELD!
HE'S WON!



MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP

NO. 12
WEEK ENDING
DEC. 29, 1976



WHEN STUDENT-PHYSICIST BRIAN BRADDOCK RUBS HIS MYSTIC AMULET, HE TRANSFORMS INTO
BRITAIN'S SUPER-HEROIC CHAMPION OF JUSTICE...

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

CAPTAIN BRITAIN!

MISTAKING AN INNOCENT GIRL FOR A WITCH, A CRAZED MOB PREPARES TO BURN HER AT THE STAKE!
AS CAPTAIN BRITAIN RACES TO HER RESCUE, HE'S AWARE THAT HIS FOES ARE ACTING UNDER THE HYP-
NOTIC INFLUENCE OF THE DEMONIC DOCTOR SYNNIE! VAULTING TOWARD THE BLAZING PYRE, THE YOUNG
WARRIOR'S ONLY THOUGHT IS THAT TO SAVE THE GIRL IS...

...TO DIE A SUPERHERO!

I CAUGHT SYNNIE
AND THE WHOLE DAFT
VILLAGE OFF GUARD!
BUT I MUST ACT FAST--
BEFORE THEY COME
DOWN ON ME!

HELP ME--
PLEASE!!



GARY FRIEDRICH *
WRITER

HERB TRIMPE & FRED KIDA *
ARTISTS

I. WATANABE *
LETTERER

D. WARFIELD *
COLORIST

LARRY LIEBER
EDITOR

IT'S THAT MUG IN THE
COSTUME AGAIN! BUT
HOW? WE FINISHED
HIM BACK IN THE
FOREST!



*LAST ISSUE!--LARRY.

I'VE REACHED HER!



--BUT UNLESS MY
STAFF IS STRONG
ENOUGH TO BREAK
HER CHAINS--

WE'LL BOTH BE
DEAD IN SECONDS!



BUT, SUDDENLY, THE ATTACKERS FREEZE--
LIKE PLAYERS IN A STOP-ACTION SEQUENCE ON
TELEVISION! AND A STARTLED HERO WHIRLS TO
CONFRONT AN ALL-TOO-FAMILIAR VOICE--



IT IS NOT FIT-
TING FOR RUSTICS
TO DESTROY YOU,
CAPTAIN
BRITAIN!

THAT PLEASURE
BELONGS TO--



**"DOCTOR
SYNNE!"**

SO, MY SUSPICIONS WERE
CORRECT! YOU ARE THE
PUPPETEER WHO'S PUL-
LING THE STRINGS OF
THIS NIGHTMARE!
BUT NOW--WHY?!



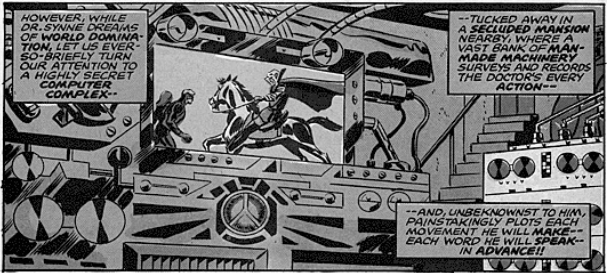
HOW? BY THE
UTILIZATION OF
GREATER MENTAL
POWER THAN MAN
HAS EVER
KNOWN!

AS FOR THE WHY--TO TEST
THAT MENTAL POWER. FIRST,
ON THESE SIMPLE COUNTRY
FOLK. NEXT, ON THE MORE
SOPHISTICATED CITY
DWELLERS!



AND FINALLY,
ON ALL
MANKIND!

HOWEVER, WHILE
DR. SYNNE DREAMS OF
WORLD DOMINA-
TION, LET US EVER-
SO-BRIEFLY TURN
OUR ATTENTION TO
A HIGHLY SECRET
COMPUTER
COMPLEX--



--TUCKED AWAY IN
A SECLUDED MANSION
NEARBY, WHERE A
VAST BANK OF MAN-
MADE MACHINERY
SURVEYS AND RECORDS
THE DOCTOR'S EVERY
ACTION--

--AND, UNBEKNOWNST TO HIM,
PAINSTAKINGLY PLOTS EACH
MOVEMENT HE WILL MAKE--
EACH WORD HE WILL SPEAK--
IN ADVANCE!!

HOWEVER, AT THIS CRUCIAL MOMENT, THE MONSTROSITY OF TRANSISTORS AND ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS SENSES SOMETHING IS WRONG-- VERY WRONG--

PROBLEM--FOE MORE POWERFUL THAN ANTICIPATED! MASTER SECTION TO SECTION 5--REQUEST SOLUTION IMMEDIATELY.

VIEW SCREEN CONFIRMS SUCCESSFUL TRANSMISSION! SUBJECT ATTACKING FOE--ESTIMATE VICTORY MOMENTARILY--

5-A REPORTING! CONTROL OVER SUBJECT REMAINS TOTAL--BUT MASTER SECTION LACKS SUFFICIENT ENERGY TO TRANSMIT TO SUBJECT FOR DEFEAT OF FOE!

COMPUTER DATA RECEIVED AND ACCEPTED! MASTER SECTION NOW DIVERTING ALL ENERGY TO SUBJECT! ENERGY FLOW TO ALL OTHER SUBJECTS TEMPORARILY LOST!

BUT, BEFORE WE SWITCH FROM TECHNOLOGY BACK TO TUMULT, LET US LOOK IN ON TWO OTHER BRADDOCKS, JAMIE AND BETSY--

*BRIAN'S SISTER FELL VICTIM TO DOC SYNNE BACK IN ISSUE #10! --LARRY.

YOU MUST BE DAFT! LOOK AT HER! SHE'S SITTING UP! BETSY--
BETSY!!

JAMIE--?
I--I'M A BIT DIZZY!

SOMETHING WENT WRONG! SYNNE WAS CERTAIN THAT THE GIRL WOULDN'T REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS!

YOU SEEM COMPLETELY RECOVERED! IT'S A MIRACLE!

OR A DISASTER! I MUST CONTACT SYNNE IMMEDIATELY!



THEN, AS THE FALLEN HERO LIES STUNNED
AND STRUGGLING TO REMAIN CONSCIOUS--

AND NOW THROUGH MY MENTAL POWER
ALONE, I SHALL LEVITATE YOUR HELPLESS
FORM AND SEND YOU TO YOUR FINAL FATE!



MAIN SECTION REPORT--SUBJECT IS IN
COMPLETE CONTROL--POWERFLOW TO
SUBJECT CONSTANT--ALL SECTIONS WILL
REMAIN DEACTIVATED UNTIL MISSION IS
COMPLETED--



--ANTICIPATE COMPLETION IN
FIFTY SECONDS--STANDBY
FOR VICTORY NOTIFICATION--

--COMMANDING SUBJECT TO LEVITATE
VICTIM TOWARD FLAMES--SUBJECT
OBEYING--COMPLETION NOW LESS
THAN THIRTY SECONDS AWAY--



--VICTIM WILL BE DROPPED
INTO FLAMES--ANTICIPATE
HIS IMMEDIATE DESTRUCTION
--COMPLETION NOW LESS
THAN TWENTY SECONDS
AWAY--STAND BY--!

IT IS RUMOURED THAT IN THE LAST MOMENTS BEFORE A MAN DIES, HIS ENTIRE LIFE FLASHES BEFORE HIS EYES! BUT IN BRIAN BRADDOCK'S CASE, HIS THOUGHTS CONTAIN ONLY ONE SCENE FROM THE PAST--THAT OF THE MYSTERIOUS GODS WHO GRANTED HIM THE VERY POWERS WHICH HAVE LED TO THIS MOMENT--



*WAY BACK IN ISSUE #1!--LARRY.

THE GRIM GAME IS OVER, CAPTAIN BRITAIN! YOU'RE FINISHED!

--AND YOUR INSIGNIFICANT DEMISE WILL LAUNCH MY EPIC CONQUEST OF ALL MANKIND!



THUS, I WITHDRAW THE MENTAL SHIELD WHICH HOLDS YOU SUSPENDED--AND COMMEND YOU TO THE FLAMES!

MAIN SECTION REPORT--
COMPLETION! VICTIM
RELEASED--PLUMMETING--
WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR
HEART-BEAT UNTIL CESSATION
--STAND BY--



THE FLAMES--
RUSHING TOWARD
ME--HEAT
SEARING MY
SKIN--

--HEAVEN
HELP ME! IS
THIS HOW--

--IT ENDS?

NEXT: FROM THE ASHES!



Part two of our quixotic quiz, sponsored
by Atlantic Toys.

ATLANTIC CROSSING



Here's the last five questions in this crazy competition, concerned with Atlantic Crossings by sea and air. When you've written all your answers in the spaces thoughtfully provided, send in both last week's answer form and this week's form to:

ATLANTIC CROSSINGS, Marvel Comics, Tubs Hill House, Sevenoaks, Kent.

And remember to fill in your name and address.

1. What sank the LUSITANIA?
2. In 1937 the maiden voyage of a famous German airship across the Atlantic ended in disaster. Name the airship.
3. Who led the Ra expedition across the Atlantic?
4. Which aeroplane makes the fastest Atlantic Crossing?
5. Only one major ocean liner still makes the Atlantic Crossing regularly. Name it.

Name.....Age.....

ADDRESS.....

All answer forms must arrive no later than Monday, January 10th,
'cos on that day we'll be picking the winners!

ATLANTIC CROSSINGS,
Marvel Comics,
Tubs Hill House,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.

Tell it to The CAPTAIN!



A NASTY PIECE OF WORK

Dear Idiots,

We are pleased to say that the fourth issue of Captain Britain was up to its usual standard: absolute tripe! Consistency is to be admired, however, in this changing world and you have indeed been consistent. In every issue so far your colourist has succeeded in producing the most diabolical rainbow assortment we've ever seen. Let's aim for realism, Chaps, the sky in your pictures manages to shoot through the entire spectrum in mere seconds of reading.

Time for our usual comment on dear old Brian B. What a nasty piece of work he is. That charming fellow Jacko Tanner (notice you're still drumming these names into us, although at least they've lost the bold type, hopefully in about twenty issues we'll be down to christian names) makes a cheesy comment to Brian, who instantly acts in an embittered and offensive manner. How on earth are we supposed to sympathise, let alone identify, with a youth who despises women, hates his fellow students, talks to himself, never stops drinking, and fails miserably in his battle with the Hurricane.

As Captain Britain, he gets more

like that dubious Daredevil lawyer fellow every week. His costume is the same, his powers are the same, his so-called jocular remarks are very similar, and now we think of it, the only difference is that our hero is not blind, but no doubt you are working on it right now.

We were most distressed to witness the appalling havoc wreaked by your villain on Thames University. Fancy him selecting the exact spot where Captain Britain resides. Another triumph for realism in comics today! His only redeeming feature was his costume. Not only did it save him from the "brutal" attacks of Captain Britain, it also made life easy for your colourist who kept that beautiful custom of never using more than two colours on one object.

Why don't you employ that chappie who colours the Frosties advert with so much subtlety, rather than that demon of the junior paintbox, Marie Severin?

Cheerio! Got to bag a few foxes before supper, tallyho!

Glenn Dakin and Steve Way

You know, something tells me that Glenn and Steve get as much enjoyment out of hating C.B. as most readers do by liking his adventures. Whatever gets you through the night, Chums!

Actually, this is the fourth such letter we've received from these two wags, and to tell the truth, us chaps in the British Bullpen always have a jolly good chorle over their comments. Thanks for making us lart, you bricks. Pip! Pip!

ORDER REGULARLY

Dear Bullpen,

At last Captain Britain is free to roam this planet. Over the years magnificent heroes were created, but none as great as this one. I, for one, will support him to the end.

I have placed a regular order for Captain Britain, and with the FF and Nick Fury backing him, how can this new mag be a failure? To finish off, I congratulate all who helped to get CB on his way. I leave his future in your hands.

Anthony Harries,
Cwm Puncteston,
Haverfordwest.

We appreciate your sentiments, hero, but with respect we'd like to point out that Captain Britain's future is now in the hands of British Marveldom.

So-o-o-o, we're counting on ya, remember that!

ON THE AGENDA

Dear Neil,

The third issue of Britain's first (?) Superhero's own book was another very ho-hum affair, strengthening my opinion that unless it gets a very quick shot in the arm it'll die a painful death.

The fault lies with Claremont . . . or rather the choice of Claremont as writer. He does a good job on the X-Men and Iron Fist, but when it comes to writing about a Superhero who's in surroundings unknown to him (i.e. Britain) then Chris, or any other writer unfamiliar with Britain, is out of depth. As I've said, the blame



cannot be burdened on Chris. It's the daft editorial policy of drafting an American writer for a British strip. What would American Fandom say if a new American patriot was to hit the newsstands written by some bloke who's never been closer to New York than Wolverhampton, and drawn by some other guy who thinks he knows America just because he watches Kojak and Starsky and Hutch. They'd go daft! And indeed the top brass realise this and would never dare attempt such a thing. But with the British fans they do dare attempt such a thing, and inflict it upon us for a charge of 10p... a price which would be wholly outrageous were it not for the colour which is superb.



By the time this letter is printed, Gary Friedrich will have taken over the writing chores. A change in writer, but a continuation of the same idiotic policy. This policy must change before C.B. becomes a laughing-stock. Surely the employment of a British based writer, and eventually an artist, is not an impossible task. American Marvel has its own strong Bullpen, surely it's time to start a London-based Bullpen. Put it on the agenda, huh, Larry?

Ivor Davis.

Firstly, welcome to the Captain Britain Letter columns, Ivor! You've written voluminous letters in our other mags, so it's good to hear your comments on C.B. That's certainly a viable point you've made concerning the production of Captain Britain in the States. But remember, Herb Trimpe lived in Britain for the best part of a year, so his knowledge of these glorious isles is not just based on watching "Upstairs, Downstairs". However it's not impossible that sometime in the future British artists and writers will work on Britain's first Marvel Superhero, and we can promise you that before too long British produced strips will be featured in our wondrous weeklies. But these things take time....

BUZZZZZZ

Dear Larry,

The man who tamed the Dingle, who corralled crime on Cantril Farm... the BOOTLE BEETLE flies on his dark metallic wings, striking fear into the black hearts of evildoers. It is a warm, sun-filled sky that looks down on the afternoon activities of the Derby Park. Even here, though, evil is present. On the centre bowling green, secluded and quiet, a crime is being committed. Two masked men are busy mugging an aging O.A.P. Way distant, in the blue sky, a black dot appears, growing steadily larger. Soon an emblem can be seen emblazoned on a blue-black shell. B.B! It's

What do you mean, you don't like it...?

Alright then, how about Captain Wal-es and his alter-ego Jones the side-kick?

Oh, well. If ever you need any new back-up strips for Cap. Brit. you have only to ask.

Kev Conlan,
15 Atherton St.,
New Brighton, Wallasey,
Merseyside.

The Bootle Beetle...? Yep, we can see him now, fighting heroically for his life with all six legs and both wings against the mad inventor of an insecticide so powerful that not only could it permanently pollute the environment, it could even destroy the Beetle himself. But then..... No, we'd better stop before we get carried away too. Or are they making strait-jackets for two these days...?

AMAZING

Dear Stan,

I think you have done Britain proud in giving her her own super-hero... Captain Britain! I think he is just FANTASTIC! The uniform, and the way he uses his quarter-staff all fits together just like the pieces in a clock. I have already accepted him as one of the greatest superheroes of all, and I have made it my duty to get a copy of Captain Britain every week.

One other thing. I think the idea of a Captain Britain fun page is just superb. So far I've had a bash at the Name Game in C.B. No. 3 and I have got the maze in which I had to find a path... and I got it right.

Keep up the good work, Stan, and keep on with Captain Britain.

Piero Gasparini,
20 Cornwall Rd.,
London, N4.

Whew! We'd be failing in our duty if we didn't warn you of what's likely to happen to you if you keep on that way, hero. You're in danger of becoming a fully-dedicated Marvelite first-class, that's what!

Marvel Comics
International Ltd.
Tubs Hill House
Sevenoaks, Kent

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE FANTASTIC FOUR!™



BIRTH OF THE OVERMIND!

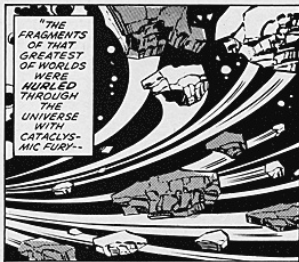
STAN LEE
PLOT

* JOHN BUSCEMA
ART

* ARCHIE GOODWIN
SCRIPT

* JOE SINNOTT
INKS

* ARTIE SIMAK
LETTERS



"THE FRAGMENTS OF THAT GREATEST OF WORLDS WERE HURLED THROUGH THE UNIVERSE WITH CATACLYSMIC FURY--



"SOME TO VANISH IN GREAT MAELSTROMS OF SEARING, SWIRLING COSMIC ENERGY--



"SOME TO COME TO REST--

"--TO FLAME, TO BURN, TO GROW--



"TO LIVE AGAIN AS STARS, AS MOONS--

"--AS BLUE-GREEN PLANETS, FERTILE AND LUSH,



FOR SO IT HAS EVER BEEN IN THE UNIVERSE. EVERY ENDING BRINGS FORTH A NEW BEGINNING--

EACH BEGINNING MUST HAVE ITS END--



"--EVEN FOR ETERNALS!

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE-- IMPOSSIBLE!

WE HAVE NEVER BEEN UNDER ATTACK, NEVER! THEY COULD NOT DARE!

BUT, MY LORD-- SEE THE SCREEN! SHIPS IN NUMBERS TO DARKEN THE SKIES!

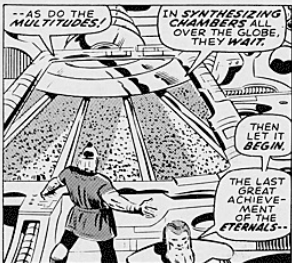


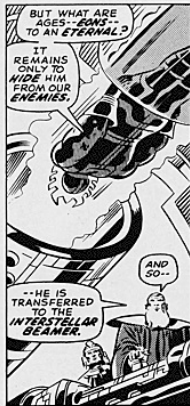
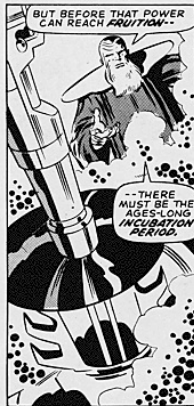
THEY SAY BUT A FRACTION OF FRIGANTUS' POPULATION SURVIVED--

YET NEVER HAVE I BEHELD SUCH AN ARMADA.

WE ARE ETERNALS! NONE ARE OUR EQUALS --NO MATTER WHAT THEIR NUMBER.

OUR DEFENCES SHALL REPEL THEM-- DESTROY THEM!





"THUS, IN INTERSTELLAR BLACKNESS, IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION, THE OVER-MIND DRIFTED--

"INCUBATING--

"--PROTECTIVE SPORE GROWING, DISGUISED AS HIS STILL FORM FROM CHANCE DISCOVERY--

"UNTIL THE MOMENT OF AWAKENING--

"--OF RAVISHING AN UN-SUSPECTING UNIVERSE IN THE NAME OF THE ETERNALS!

I COULD TELL YOU MORE, MORTALS--

--OF THE AWESOME INSTANT HE AWOKE--OF THE MENTAL MIGHT THAT TRANSFORMED LATENT SPORE INTO A SPACE-CRAFT--

BUT IT IS ENOUGH TO KNOW HE HAS COME TO YOUR WORLD--

--AND THAT THE DOOM HAS BEGUN!

THOUGH I WISH OTHERWISE, I FEAR THIS KNOWLEDGE CANNOT AID YOU.

FOR ALREADY--

--THE OVER-MIND HAS BATTLED YOU, TESTED YOUR POWERS--

--AND FOUND THEM NO CHALLENGE!

WATCHER--WAIT! ARE YOU SAYING--?

HE'S GONE!

AN' WITH SOME NUTTY EXIT LINE.

I WONDER, BEN--

A MIND SUCH AS THE WATCHER DESCRIBED COULD BE CAPABLE OF WIPING OUT MEMORY--

--AND CAUSING THE CITY TO TURN AGAINST US AS WELL.*

IF THIS COSMIC CREEP TOOK US ON, IT SURE DIDN'T PENETRATE MY BABY BLUES!

*EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED THREE ISSUES AGO.



REED, IF HE CAN DO ALL THAT--

HOW DO WE FIND HIM--OR EVEN PROVE HE EXISTS?

KID'S GOT A POINT, STRETCHO.

I SURE AINT CONVINCED HE EXISTS--

ANYBODY OUTFIGHTS ME--I REMEMBER!

SUCH POWER CERTAINLY WON'T BE OVERCOME BY ORDINARY METHODS.

NO--

IT WILL TAKE A **SUPERIOR INTELLECT** TO CHALLENGE THE OVER-MIND.

AND IN **THIS** GROUP, ONLY ONE PERSON HAS **THAT** QUALIFICATION --

--MYSELF!

THERE'S TOO MUCH AT **STAKE** TO BE HAMPERED BY YOU THREE AS I USUALLY AM--

THIS TIME, MR. FANTASTIC FIGHTS ALONE!

HUH?!

NOW HOLD IT A SEC--

DARLING, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? IT'S NOT LIKE YOU TO--

NOT LIKE ME TO DO ALL THE **THINKING**? TO BE THE ONE WHO INEVITABLY **SAVES** THE TEAM?

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?!

REED!

I'VE NEVER HEARD YOU TALK THIS WAY.

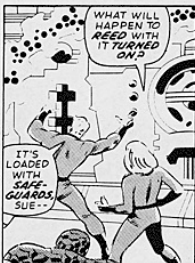
ME **NEITHER**, SUZIE GAL.

CURLY, IF THERE WAS AN OVER-MIND, I MIGHT JUST THINK HE'D PUT THE **KIBOSH** ON--ON--

--YOU!











**A MIGHTY
MIXTURE
OF MYSTERY
AND
IMAGINATION**

**FEATURING
HULK · CONAN · AND
DAREDEVIL!
ON SALE
NOW!**

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Stan Lee presents
CAPTAIN
BRITAIN'S

FUN PAGE

by OWEN M'CARRON



THE ORIGINAL



NICK FURY Special

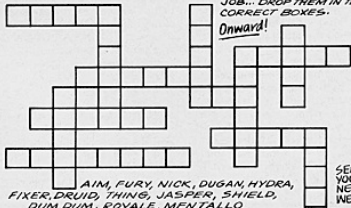
S.H.I.E.L.D. HEADQUARTERS UNDER ATTACK... NOT BY HYDRA... BUT BY A RAMPAGING XEROX COPYING MACHINE!!

WHILE THE COPIES ARE GOOD, THEY MISSED A NUMBER OF THINGS. ON EACH COPY, THERE ARE 8 DIFFERENT THINGS MISSING. COMPARE THE ORIGINAL WITH EACH COPY AND DON'T YIELD... **HELP S.H.I.E.L.D.!**

Nick Fury's "NAME-DROPPER" Word Game!

THE CHARACTERS NAMED BELOW ARE PART OF THE CAST. YOUR JOB... DROP THEM IN THE CORRECT BOXES.

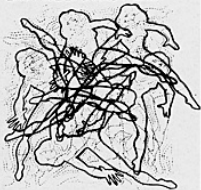
Onward!



AIM, FURY, NICK, DUGAN, HYDRA,
FIXER, DRUID, THING, JASPER, SHIELD,
DUM DUM, ROYALE, MENTALLO

SEE
YOU
NEXT
WEEK!

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS:



ANSWER: 6 INVISIBLE GIRLS
(THE ANSWER IS ALMOST AS
CONFUSING AS THE PUZZLE)
-LARRY

Rhyme: A Word with REED:

BEAD	SEED
DEED	WEED
LEAD	NEED

ODD AND OTHERWORLDLY ODYSSEYS
OBVIOUSLY MEANT TO OVERJOY ONE
AND ALL!

ITEM! It had to happen! The confrontation had to come—and, at last, it has! Captain Britain is locked in a fight to the finish with the diabolical Dr. Synne, and here's the kicker, fast-action fans: **One must die!** Which one? Well, that's what the battle is all about! We can guarantee you all-out action galore as several weeks of fever-pitch frenzy explode in a conclusion to crack comics wide open! It happens in **CAPTAIN BRITAIN** No. 12, and it happens in colour! All new adventures for British superhero freaks exclusively! And remember, folks, Marvel gives you more! We've also picked this power-packed issue to conclude our two other continued sagas—**SHIELD** and the **Fantastic Four!** Clap, cheer, cross your eyes and chant the Merry Marvel Marching Society song—but whatever you do, be sure not to miss this landmark issue!

ITEM! Rumour has it that some of you frantic comic art fanatics have developed an enormous appetite for sheer Marvel-style magic, and so, despite the fact that **CAPTAIN BRITAIN** is power-packed with plenty of thrills, we've decided to be generous and also issue our other wondrous weeklies as well! **SUPER SPIDER-MAN** AND **THE TITANS** No. 203 boasts the bombshell debut of the Liberty Legion! So who's in this latest lively super-group?

How's this for a liltin' line-up: Miss America! The Patriot! Red Raven! Jack Frost! The Thin Man! The Blue Diamond! And who should be responsible for getting this gaggle of super-powered folks together, anyway? Why, none other than boisterous **Bucky Barnes**, Captain America's splendid sidekick! And he's acting with good reason, since some highly-specialized fighting force is needed to stand up to the Invaders themselves—who have all turned **evil!** Meanwhile, in present time, the mighty Avengers meet up with the ultra-bad **Beast Brood**, a bunch of mad mutants led by the lovely **Lorelei!** This is also the wacky weekly that features the awesome adventures of **Iron Man**, **Thor**, **Captain America**—and **Peter Parker**, otherwise known as the spectacular **Spider-Man!** Unfortunately, if we spent the rest of this bombastic Bullpen Bulletins page telling you all about their individual escapades, we wouldn't have room to mention our other weird weeklies... so you'll just have to take our word for it that the rest of this issue is as far-out and splendiferous as the wonderment already described above!

ITEM! **MIGHTY WORLD OF MARVEL** No. 222 features the explosive end episode of the **Origin of Sgt Nick Fury**; you asked for it, Marvelites, and we gave it to you! Now that you've had a chance to thrill to the war-time exploits of the modern-day director of **SHIELD**, why not write and tell us what you think of his adventures? Let us know, okay? Next issue, the star-spanning adventures of **Captain Marvel** begin here, as our favourite red cheese faces off against the titanic threat of **Thanos!** And remember, this mag also features **Luke Cage** and **Daredevil**—so don't ya dare miss it!

ITEM! A squeezed-in suggestion to scrutinize **PLANET OF THE APES** #115, with **Conan**, **Ka-Zar**, **Man-Thing** and **apes**, **apes**, **apes!** That's all for this week, stalwarts! Y'all come back now—hear?!



Stan Lee NICK FURY, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D.!
PRESENTS: SUPREME HEADQUARTERS INTERNATIONAL ESPIONAGE LAW-ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

JUST A SPLIT-SECOND BEFORE THE YELLOW CLAW BLASTED NICK FURY WITH THE ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR, OUR FAVORITE DIRECTOR OF SHIELD WAS WHISKED THROUGH AN INTER-DIMENSIONAL PORTAL AND RETURNED TO SHIELD HQ! THE YELLOW CLAW BELIEVES NICK FURY TO BE DEAD--BUT HE SHALL SOON LEARN THAT HIS ADVERSARY IS VERY MUCH ALIVE!

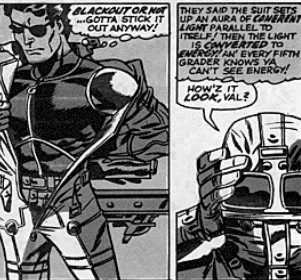
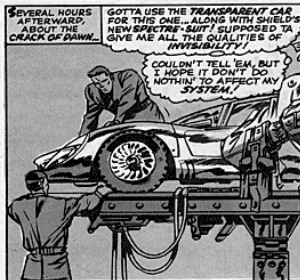
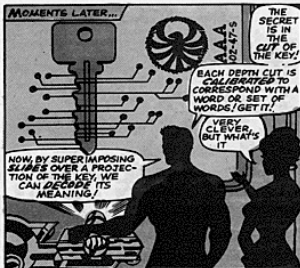
HAND IT OVER, VAL! IT IS IMPORTANT!

HERE, NICK-- THE GAFF JUST GAVE ME THIS KEY-- TOLD ME IT COULD BE IMPORTANT!

THE CODE ETCHED ON ITS RIDGES COULD VERY WELL SPELL THE DOWNFALL OF THE YELLOW CLAW!

A KEY TO CHAOS!

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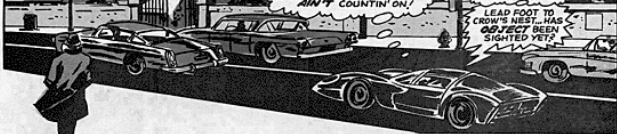


OUTSIDE, THE DIRECTOR OF SHIELD SWINGS INTO THE EARLY MORNING TRAFFIC, PROTECTED FRONT AND REAR BY TWO MORE SHIELD AGENTS...

THE CLAW PROBABLY HAS SPOTTERS ALONG THIS ROUTE HIMSELF, BUT I'LL BET THIS IS ONE LITTLE TRICK THEY *AIN'T* COUNTIN' ON!

WELL, IN ANOTHER COUPLA SECONDS WE SHOULD KNOW IF WE GOT HIM!

LEAD FOOT TO CROW'S NEST... HAS OBJECT BEEN SIGHTED YET?



AND, AS THE LIGHT REFRACTING DEVICE TURNS ON, THE AGENT SEES...



JUST AHEAD OF YOU, SIR! JOCKEY INTO POSITION AT NEXT CURVE... ALL CLEAR TO USE *IMAGE* DISTURBER!

YOU CALLED IT... MAINTAIN LOOKOUT!



NICE GOIN', PAL! YA JUST GAVE ME THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO HITCH A RIDE! HURRY BACK!

MINUTES LATER, THE ACCIDENT INFO TAKEN, THE ENEMY DRIVER HEADS FOR HIS DESTINATION...



HOPE HE DIDN'T RECOGNIZE THE CORNER COP AS A SHIELD MAN!

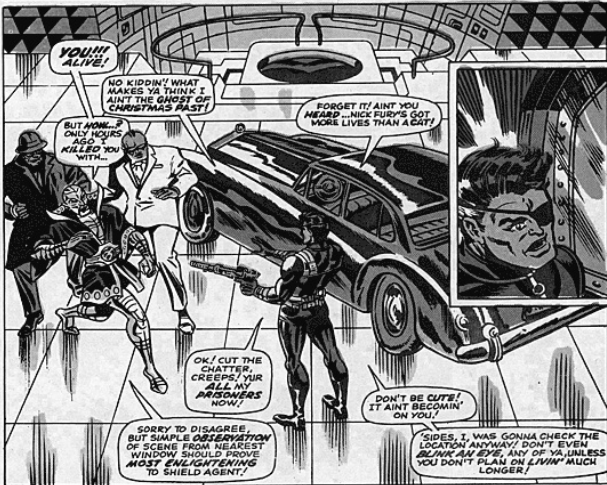
EVEN SO, AFTER THAT BIT HE'LL BE SUSPICIOUS... GOTTA PLAY IT COOL NOW!

SUDDENLY, EVERY CAR DOOR LOCKS SIMULTANEOUSLY, EVERY WINDOW ROLLS UP, SEALING THE OCCUPANTS WITHIN...



THEN, THE STEERING TOO IS LOST TO THE DRIVER, YET SOMEHOW CONTROLLED BY A FORCE UNSEEN...



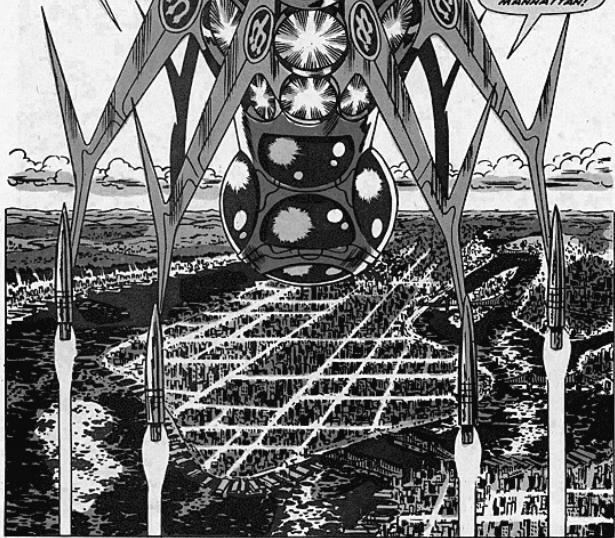


YOU SEE, COLONEL FURY,
I AM ~~NOT~~ THE CAPTIVE
...IT IS *YOU* WHO ARE
MY PRISONER...

HERE IN MY SKY-DRAGON,
HOVERING IN THE *SUN*,
SEVERAL MILES ABOVE
NEW YORK CITY!

NOW, YOU WILL WAIT WITH
US...UNTIL NOON...WHEN
THE *SUN* IS *DIRECTLY*
OVERHEAD! A MOMENT
NEVER-TO-BE FORGOTTEN
...A MOMENT TO BE
RECALLED *FOREVER*
AS... *BLACK NOON!*

THE COMPLETE AND
IRREVOCABLE
DESTRUCTION OF THE
ENTIRE ISLAND OF
MANHATTAN!



EVEN SO, THE INSTANT YOU REVEALED YOURSELF, MY GUARDS WERE ALERTED!

SO, LET THE PLAY-ACTING END NOW, SENTRYES... ADVANCE!

CAPTURE THIS FOOL! THE YELLOW CLAW COMMANDS!

USE YOUR FRIG-WEP! COOL OFF THE SON OF A DDB!

SHAZZAKK!

I'M USED TO THE COLD SHOULDER, PUNKS! NOW WATCH WHILE FURY TURNS ON HIS OWN HEAT WAVE!

THEY OUTTA KNOW BY NOW MY ZIP-SUIT'S INSULATED AGAINST THIS KINDA ATTACK!

WRAM!

HEY! MY ROCKET SNELLS... BOUNCIN' OFF HIS ARMOUR LIKE NOTHIN' BUT A BUNCH O' PEBBLES!

PTANG!

VOLTZMANN! QUICK! YOUR CANE!

MY THOUGHTS, EXACTLY! HEAR CLAW/TSE WHIR! VELOCITY DARTS WILL FINISH HIM OFF!

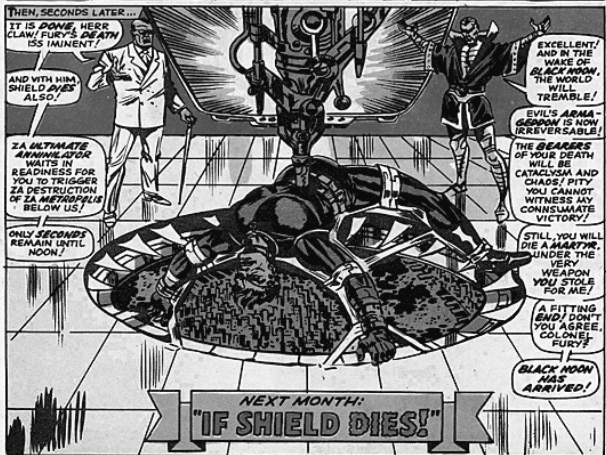
THAP!
KKWWEEE!

FTOK!

THINK AGAIN, UGLY!

THIS'LL ONLY HOLD 'EM OFF A COUPLA SECONDS MORE!

GOTTA USE SOME OF THE HEAVY ARTILLERY FROM MY BELTS!



A Merry-Marvel Christmas!



From the
British Bullpen

G. P. M. A.